

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-10, 13, 15-17 and 20 are pending, and stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. In view of this, the present specification and claims are amended herein to delete the alleged new matter. Specifically, the term "non-perforated" is now deleted from the specification and claims.

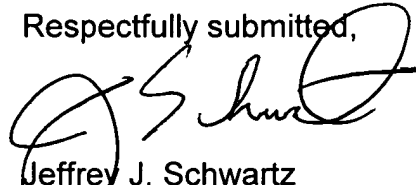
Additionally, base Claims 1 and 12 are amended herein to further recite structure of the non-ceramic rigid facing of the hard armor composite. Specifically, the amended claims recite a rigid non-ceramic facing *comprising high-performance fibers having a tensile strength greater than 7 grams per denier and at least one non-ceramic element selected from a group consisting of glass fiber, carbon fiber, silicone-carbide, and graphite.* The amended claims further state that the *high-performance fibers and non-ceramic element are arranged in a structure selected from a group consisting of woven layers, non-woven unidirectional layers, knit layers, a three-dimensionally knit structure, and a three-dimensionally woven structure.* Support for the present amendment can be found in the specification at paragraph 0037. A hard armor composite incorporating a rigid facing including the claimed structure is neither disclosed, taught, nor suggested in the prior art of record.

For all these reasons discussed above, Applicant submits that all of the claims in the case are now in condition for allowance. Such action is therefore respectfully requested at an early date. If the Examiner believes that issues remain for discussion, she

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is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



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